

NATIONAL HEAVY VEHICLE REGULATOR COST RECOVERY ON OVER DIMENSIONAL PERMITS



MOTION FOUR

That the LGAQ calls on:

- The State Government and its responsible State Minister to amend the *Heavy Vehicle National Law Act 2012 (Qld)* and *Heavy Vehicle National Law Regulation 2014* to ensure that fees collected for access permits by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator include a component that is reimbursed to the Local Government Road Manager; and
- The Federal Government and the responsible Commonwealth Minister to ensure the *Heavy Vehicle National Law Act 2012 (Qld)* and *Heavy Vehicle National Law Regulation 2014* is updated to ensure that fees collected for access permits by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator include a component that is reimbursed to the Local Government Road Manager.

DESIRED OUTCOME

The State Government and its responsible Minister updates the applicable law and regulation to ensure that a portion of the fees collected for access permits are passed on to council to provide for partial reimbursement of costs incurred.

Following the update of applicable Law and Regulation, the Board of the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) to amend the fee schedule to include an additional permit that provides for the partial reimbursement of expected costs incurred by a Local Government Road Manager associated with the assessment and approval of permits issued by the NHVR.

BACKGROUND

Since 16 December 2019 and the return of the delegation applied to mass or dimension permits, there has been an ever-increasing operational impact which Local Governments have had to incur, without any additional revenue to mitigate the additional work. This impact is a result of Council Officers needing to evaluate the impacts associated with individual permits and identify applicable conditions in order to protect the Local Government Road and Transport Infrastructure.

On average a permit would require 10-15 minutes for the Permit Officer to evaluate and apply relevant conditions and 3-5 minutes for the Road Manager to review and approve the permit, this equates to an operational cost of approximately \$20.00 per permit. When this is calculated based on the 2021-22 permits

issued within the Isaac Region, the cost to Council is over \$109,000.

While it is identified that the function partially serves as a key role for local government in the protection of road and transport assets within its local government areas as well as the service seeking to facilitate economic investment within the region, the key beneficiary for the service is the applicable industry/s within the local government area with only impacts to the community and other road users as a result of the over dimensional vehicle movements.

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator already applies a permit fee of \$78.00 per permit, however none of this fee is transferred on to the Local Government as the Road Manager.